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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for providing a user controlled and automated migration of a client computer using a deployment framework with update tools, comprising the steps of:
 - 5 determining user migration specifications for a client computer using information received from a user through a user migration control interface coupled to the deployment framework;
 - checking the migration compliance of the client computer that is associated with the user;
 - 10 generating a client computer profile based on the migration compliance of the client computer and the user migration specifications;
 - receiving an electronic approval from the user via the user migration control interface to initiate the migration of the client computer; and
 - migrating the client computer as predetermined by the client computer profile
 - 15 using update tools connected to the deployment framework.
2. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of checking the migration compliance further comprises the step of collecting an inventory of the client computer's hardware and software.
- 20 3. A method as in claim 2, wherein the step of collecting an inventory further comprises the step of creating a traceable registration that uniquely identifies the user associated with a client computer profile.
- 25 4. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of determining user migration specifications further comprises the step of enabling the user to register for migration services via a web-enabled interface.
- 30 5. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of migrating of the client computer further comprises the step of installing user requested software.
6. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of migrating the client computer further comprises the step of supplying user training for migrated computer software and hardware using a web interface for the deployment framework.

7. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of migrating of the client computer further comprises the step of backing up user specific data located on the client computer.
8. A method as in claim 7, wherein the step of backing up user specific data further includes the step of restoring user specific data after updated client computer software has been loaded.
9. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an electronic approval from the user via the user migration control interface, further comprises the step of enabling a user to select whether a software refresh or a wipe and load is performed on the user's client computer.
10. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an electronic approval from the user via the user migration control interface, further comprises the step of enabling a user to select a uniform desktop to be included in the migration.
11. A method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of presenting a completion survey to the user after migration of the client computer.
12. A method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of tracking the progress of the client computer's migration for viewing by the user.
13. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of checking the migration compliance of the client computer further comprises the step of collecting an inventory of the client computer's hardware and software using an inventory plug-in.
14. A method as in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving an electronic approval from the user via the user migration control interface further comprises the step of receiving approval for the user controlled migration from business management and technical management personnel.
15. A method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of providing a deployment framework where the update tools are interchangeable plug-ins.

16. A method as in claim 1, further comprising the step of allowing migration of the client computer to be interrupted by the user.

17. A method for providing a user controlled and automated migration of a client computer using a deployment framework with update tools, comprising the steps of:

determining user migration specifications for a client computer using information received from a user through a user migration control interface coupled to the deployment framework;

checking the migration compliance of the client computer that is associated with the user;

generating a client computer profile based on the migration compliance of the client computer and the user software specifications;

receiving approval for user controlled migration from management personnel responsible for the user; and

migrating the client computer as predetermined by the client computer profile using update tools connected to the deployment framework.

18. A method as in claim 17, wherein the step of receiving approval for user controlled migration from management personnel responsible for the user further comprises the step of receiving approval from the technical management personnel responsible for the user.

19. A method as in claim 17, wherein the step of receiving approval for user controlled migration from management personnel responsible for the user further comprises the step of routing the client computer profile through the deployment framework to management personnel for approval.

20. A device for providing user controlled and automated migration of a user's client computer, comprising:

a deployment framework that enables user controlled migration of a client computer over a computer network;

a user migration control interface in the deployment framework that controls the migration of the client computer via an electronic approval from the user;

a plurality of update tools coupled to the deployment framework to perform migration operations;

a communications module for the deployment framework, configured to route approvals from the user, management, and technical personnel; and

an account infrastructure in communication with the deployment framework, configured to collect an inventory for the computer hardware and software associated with a user.

21. A device as in claim 20, wherein the plurality of update tools can be interchangeable software plug-ins.

22. A device as in claim 20, wherein the user migration control interface further comprises a plurality of web pages to provide control of the deployment framework by the user.

23. A device as in claim 20, wherein the deployment framework further comprises an active directory component that enables interaction with the plurality of update tools.

24. A device as in claim 20, wherein the deployment framework is further enabled to record approvals for hardware upgrades from applicable business management and technical personnel who are responsible for the user.

25. A device as in claim 20, wherein the plurality of update tools further comprise an update tool selected from the group consisting of an inventory management tool, a data backup tool, a data restore tool, and a custom software distribution tool.

26. A device as in claim 20, wherein the communications module further comprises routing logic to ensure that the appropriate business management and technical approvals have been received.

27. A device for providing user controlled and automated migration of a user's client computer, comprising:

a deployment framework means for controlling migration of a client computer over a computer network;

a user migration control interface means in the deployment framework for controlling the migration of the client computer via an electronic approval from the user;

a plurality of software plug-in means coupled to the deployment framework for performing migration operations;

a communications means for the deployment framework, configured for routing approvals from the user, management, and technical personnel; and

5 an account infrastructure means in communication with the deployment framework, for collecting an inventory for the computer hardware and software associated with a user.

28. A device as in claim 20, wherein the user migration control interface means further
10 comprises a plurality of web pages to provide control of the deployment framework by the user.

29. An article of manufacture, comprising:

15 a computer usable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for providing a user controlled and automated migration of a client computer using a deployment framework with update tools, the computer readable program code in the article of manufacture comprising:

20 computer readable program code for determining user migration specifications for a client computer using information received from a user through a user migration control interface coupled to the deployment framework

computer readable program code for checking the migration compliance of the client computer that is associated with the user;

25 computer readable program code for generating a client computer profile based on the migration compliance of the client computer and the user migration specifications;

30 computer readable program code for receiving an electronic approval from the user via the user migration control interface to initiate the migration of the client computer; and

computer readable program code for migrating the client computer as predetermined by the client computer profile using update tools connected to the deployment framework.